

Meeting Minutes 11 March 2010

Minutes taken by Greg Weirs

Board Members Attending:

Greg Weirs
Mary Beth Nelson
Dave Corby
Jeff Gittelman
Jim Strozier
Richard Worthen
Nancy Denker
Erin Quinn
David Tyroler

Zoning

The only case is in the Summit Park Neighborhood Association. The property's back yard abuts Lomas Boulevard, but the request is for a carport that is not visible from Lomas. The Board decided not to comment, since it is not visible from Lomas, before Martin Grummer (architect) presented the case.

Hibben House

A neighborhood resident raised concerns about the Hibben House at 3005 Campus Blvd. NE. The neighbor reports that the property owners (Lutz's) have not been maintaining the property for three years, but now there is activity in the yard – clearing trees, and the appearance of a large H-shaped rock structure on the corner. The key concern is that the property will be made into a non-residential research center/museum (believed to violate the present R-1 zoning.) At the time of purchase, local newspaper articles indicated the Lutz's had a similar development in another state. The activity potentially supports this view if the trees are being cleared for a parking lot, raising the issue of increased traffic, and if the H-shaped structure will hold a large sign or is itself the sign. The Board advised to contact city councilor Rey Garduño with these concerns, as well as city information (311) to raise the zoning issue.

For Information

Peter Martin (owner/operator) presented plans for a seafood restaurant, Desert Fish, to be located at 4214 Central SE. Others in attendance included Tessa Zemon (owner/operator), Juno Raby (property owner), and Fred Gallegos (chef).

Most seafood would be flown in from the Pacific NW, with produce acquired locally. The interior would be divided into a restaurant and a bar, with a performance stage in the bar for a variety of uses including community presentations. Significant work will be done on the building, but the current footprint will not change. The 7-8' space between the building and the sidewalk on Central will be used as a patio with several dining tables.

Matt Zidovsky, staff member at Martin Heinrich's Albuquerque office, introduced himself and the constituent services the office provides.

Past zoning cases: The three requests heard in February regarding the project at 3800 Central Ave SE, and supported by the NHNA board, were all approved.

Thai Cuisine 2 is applying for a liquor license.

Outreach/Public Relations Committee

March Outreach: Nick Kuhn Albuquerque City Forester, Cheryl Rosel Bernalillo County Extension Agent that works closely with Albuquerque master gardeners. March 25th, 6:30pm. Location: TBD.

April Outreach: Tentative for April 22nd: Developers forum. Most developers lined up. Location: TBD.

May Outreach: Historic Walk, coordinated by Gary Eyster.

June: No outreach event planned.

July 22nd: NHNA BBQ at Morningside Park, in coordination with the growers market.

July 24-25th: Route 66 Days

August: Movie outside?

September: Annual meeting

Communication/Web:

Todd Jacobson, IT professional, was invited to discuss and advise the board on options for an updated web site – hosting, web authoring/editing software systems, fit to our organization. He has seen the present site. His understanding was that ease of use is probably our top priority in hosting and management software. We want remote login and editing, and the hosting company to take care of security. In discussion, we had raised using a Duke City Fix group for dynamic features such as forums and social networking. As the easiest option for a static web site, he

recommend “google sites” – easy to use, document management, calendaring, forums (google groups), accessible for editing from any browser. The main weakness is that google sites offers only limited customization.

Brief Review of Visioning meeting:

Public Safety, Traffic Calming

Briefly discussed North Campus/Summit Park traffic study as an example. Poll neighbors for interest.

Spencer Nelson reported that the focused effort of the police has reduced February property crimes in our neighborhood. There was some discussion of reinvigorating the neighborhood watch program. Consider the possibility of block captains serving in a neighborhood watch role as well as a NHNA point of contact for membership and information.

Dues and Structure and membership

Discussion of possible alternatives to the membership fee; are \$10 dues an obstacle to membership? At our Nob Hill Nights booth, casual passers-by often lose interest when the membership dues are presented, and as a result don't sign up for the email list. The need for dues to support board activity has declined, but that is because of movie income that is better thought of as a windfall. Most board members felt comfortable with suggesting a \$10 donation, rather than requiring a \$10 fee. The bylaws will be reviewed and the city Office of Neighborhood Coordination consulted on whether dues are strictly required.

The table at Nob Hill Nights was more successful in March than February – better weather, better location. We will continue to staff a booth at upcoming events, and consider staffing with one board member and one neighborhood resident.

Discussion of graphic designs for a neighborhood logo.